Veterans In Our Communities

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Objective

At the conclusion of this session, you should have:

- An understanding of some the ways the American Community Survey (ACS) differs from a decennial survey

- Example Uses of ACS Data

- A visual image of Census Bureau geographies

- Observed a demonstration of the various Data Tools

Agenda

- How the data are used
- Programs (sources)
- History
- American Community Survey
    - Overview
    - Geography
- Data highlights & visuals
- Additional resources
- Demonstration
- Census Academy
- Q&A

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Veteran Affairs Data Uses

- Measure veteran needs
- Evaluate impact of veteran's programs for education, employment and healthcare
- Conduct policy analysis
- Plan veteran programs
- Budget for Federal veterans' programs
- Report to Congress on state projections of veterans; facilities and services

Sources of Veteran Statistics

- American Community Survey
https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/guidance.html

- 2010 Census (U.S. Territories only)
https://www.census.gov/newsroom/releases/archives/2010_census/press-kits/island-areas.html
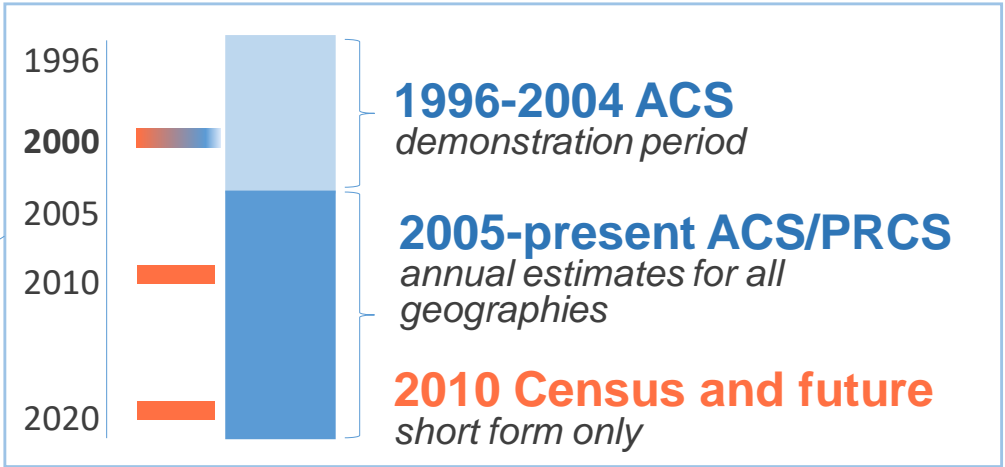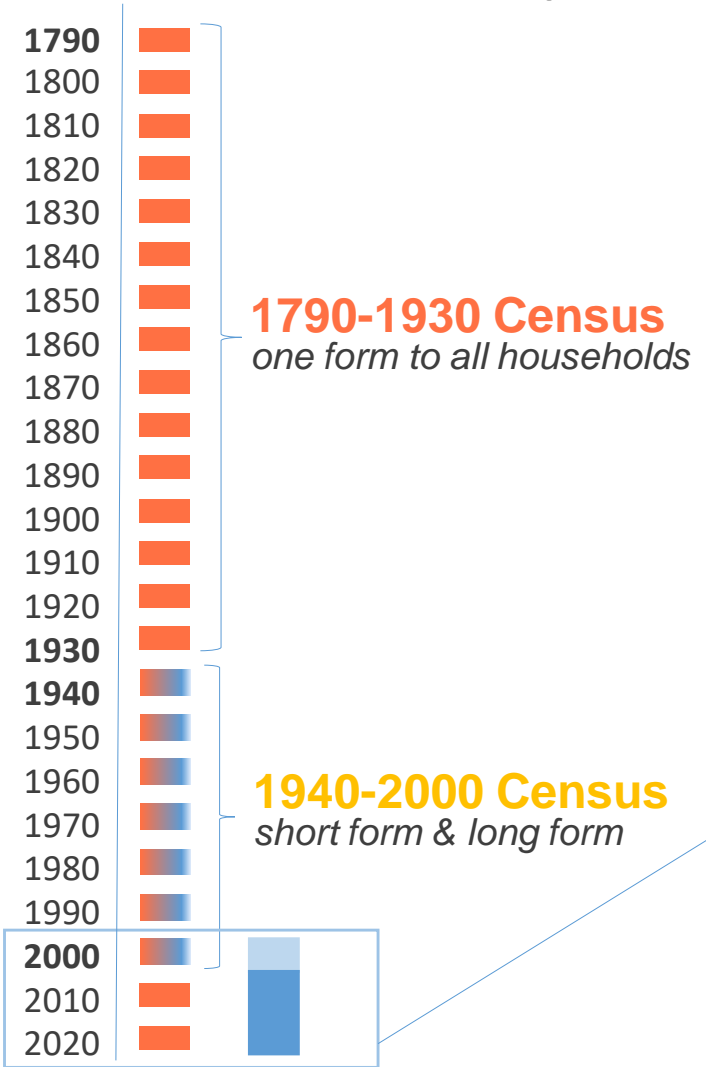
- Current Population Survey
https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/cps.html

- Survey of Income and Program Participation
http://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/sipp/about.html

Decennial Census Historical Veteran Questions

- The first data on veterans to be published by the U.S. government were based on an inquiry in the **1840 census** which asked the name, age, and place of residence of pensioners of the Revolutionary War

- Veteran status questions were asked in every decennial census from 1910 to 2000, with the exception of 1920

- Prior to 1980, the veteran status questions were asked of all **males** 14 years and older

- Starting in 1980, the veteran status questions were asked of all **individuals** 15 years and older

Complete question wording for the 1910 through 2000 decennial censuses can be found here:
https://census.gov/content/dam/Census/topics/population/veterans/guidance/veteran-questions-over-time.pdf

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American Community Survey

1790 1800 1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 **1930**	**1790-1930 Census** *one form to all households*
1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 1990 **2000**	**1940-2000 Census** *short form & long form*
2010 2020	

1996 **2000**	**1996-2004 ACS** *demonstration period*
2005 2010	**2005-present ACS/PRCS** *annual estimates for all geographies*
2020	**2010 Census and future** *short form only*

American Community Survey

	ACS	2010 and 2020 Census
purpose	Sample estimates	Official counts
produces	Population characteristics	Population totals
new data every	Year	10 years
data reflect	Period of time	Point in time
Collects	Information previously on the census "long form"	"Short form" information

American Community Survey

- The nation's most current, reliable, and accessible data source for local statistics on critical planning topics such as age, children, veterans, commuting, education, income, and employment

- Surveys **3.5 million** households and informs over **$675 billion** of Federal government spending each year

- Covers **35+ topics**, supports over **300** evidence-based Federal government uses, and produces **11 billion** estimates each year

American Community Survey

POPULATION		HOUSING
SOCIAL Ancestry Citizenship Disability Educational Attainment Fertility Grandparents Language Marital Status Migration School Enrollment Veterans	**DEMOGRAPHIC** Age Hispanic Origin Race Relationship Sex **ECONOMIC** Class of Worker Commuting Employment Status Food Stamps (SNAP) Health Insurance Hours/Week, Weeks/Year Income Industry & Occupation	Computer & Internet Use Costs (Mortgage, Taxes, Insurance) Heating Fuel Home Value Occupancy Plumbing/Kitchen Facilities Structure Tenure (Own/Rent) Utilities Vehicles Year Built/ Year Moved In

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American Community Survey

- For the 1999 to 2002 ACS, the veteran series of questions matched Census 2000
- At the request of the Department of Veterans Affairs:
  - In 2003, several changes were made to the veteran status and periods of military service questions
  - In 2008, new content about service-connected disability was added to the questionnaire and the years of service question was removed
  - In 2013, the veteran status question was simplified and the periods of military service categories were collapsed

American Community Survey

26 Has this person ever served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces, Reserves, or National Guard?
Mark (X) ONE box.

☐ Never served in the military → *SKIP to question 29a*

☐ Only on active duty for training in the Reserves or National Guard → *SKIP to question 28a*

☐ Now on active duty

☐ On active duty in the past, but not now

27 When did this person serve on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces? *Mark (X) a box for EACH period in which this person served, even if just for part of the period.*

☐ September 2001 or later

☐ August 1990 to August 2001 (including Persian Gulf War)

☐ May 1975 to July 1990

☐ Vietnam era (August 1964 to April 1975)

☐ February 1955 to July 1964

☐ Korean War (July 1950 to January 1955)

☐ January 1947 to June 1950

☐ World War II (December 1941 to December 1946)

☐ November 1941 or earlier

28 a. Does this person have a VA service-connected disability rating?

☐ Yes (such as 0%, 10%, 20%, ... , 100%)

☐ No → *SKIP to question 29a*

b. What is this person's service-connected disability rating?

☐ 0 percent

☐ 10 or 20 percent

☐ 30 or 40 percent

☐ 50 or 60 percent

☐ 70 percent or higher

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/methodology/questionnaire-archive.html

American Community Survey

Additional Department of Veterans Affairs Uses

- Measure the needs of veterans and evaluate the impact of veterans' programs dealing with education, employment, and health care
- Measure a veteran's service-connected disability compensation entitlement status to accurately anticipate the need for VA care and its associated cost

American Community Survey

Community Uses for Veterans

- Budgeting and planning for medical services and nursing homes
- Planning locations and sizes of veterans' cemeteries
- Determining segments of population who may not be receiving needed medical services
- Allocating funds for veteran employment and job training programs
- Allowing VA medical centers and their regional networks to engage in meaningful local area planning that accounts for expectations of the future demand for VA care

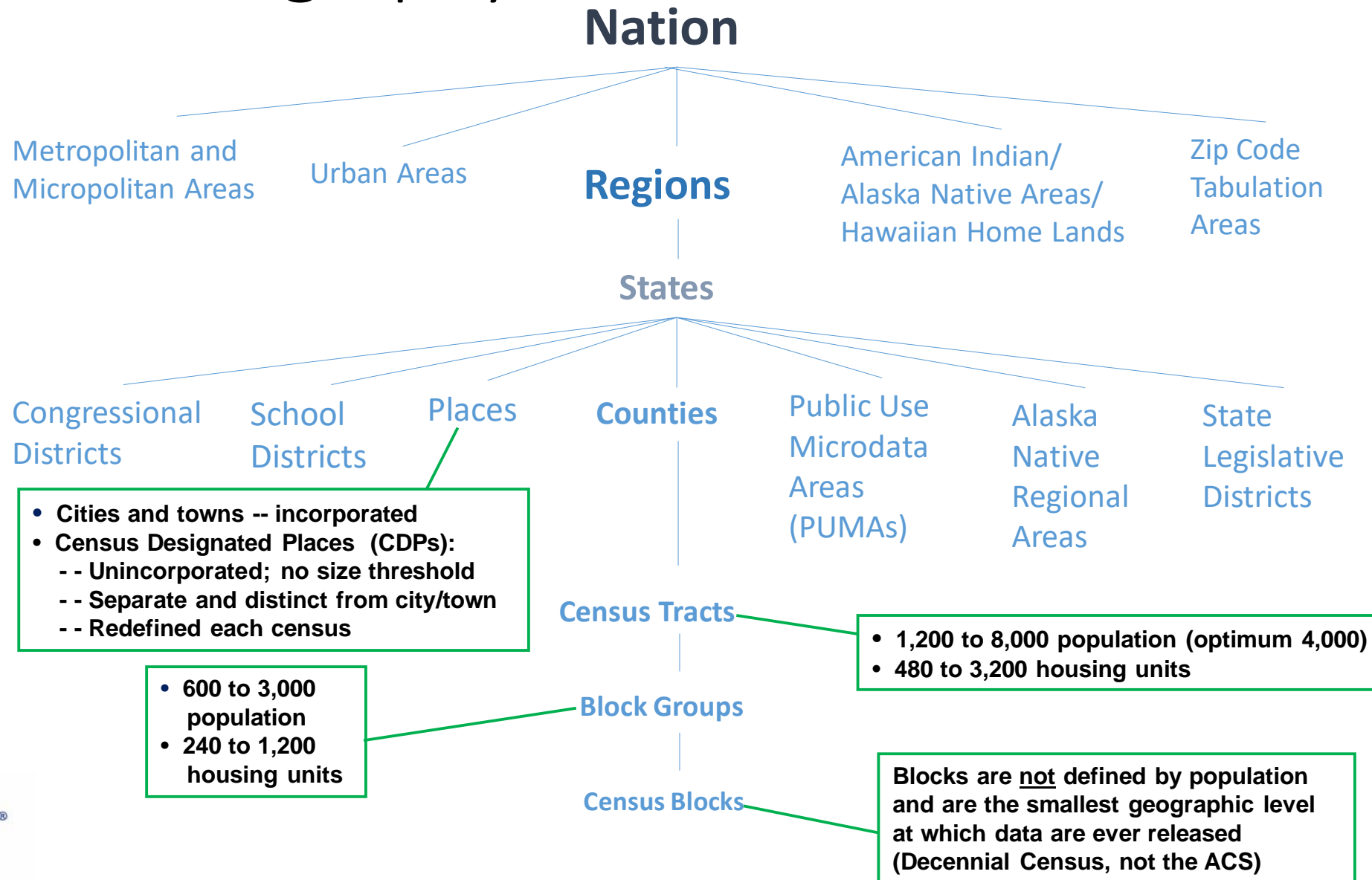| American Community Survey Tables Pertaining to Veterans	1-Year	5-Year
DETAILED TABLES:		
B21001 – Sex by Age by Veteran Status for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over	X	X
B21001A-I – Sex by Age by Veteran Status for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over *(race iterated tables)*	X	
B21002 – Period of Military Service for Civilian Veterans 18 Years and Over	X	X
B21003 – Veteran Status by Educational Attainment for the Civilian Population 25 Years and Over	X	X
B21004 – Median Income in the Past 12 Months by Veteran Status by Sex for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over with Income in the Past 12 Months	X	X
B21005 – Age by Veteran Status by Employment Status for the Civilian Population 18 to 64 Years	X	X
B21007 – Age by Veteran Status by Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Disability Status for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over	X	
B21100 – Service-Connected Disability-Rating Status and Ratings for Civilian Veterans 18 Years and Older	X	X
COLLAPSED TABLES:		
C21001A-I – Sex by Age by Veteran Status for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over (race iterated tables)	X	X
C21005 – Veteran Status by Employment Status for the Civilian Population 18 to 64 Years	X	
C21007 – Age by Veteran Status by Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months by Disability Status for the Civilian Population 18 Years and Over	X	X
C21100 – Service-Connected Disability-Rating Status for Civilian Veterans 18 Years and Older	X	
SUBJECT TABLES:		
S2101 – Veteran Status	X	X
RANKING TABLES:		
R2101 – Percent of the Civilian Population 18 years and Over Who are Veterans	X	
GCT2101 – Percent of the Civilian Population 18 years and Over Who are Veterans	X	X
PROFILE TABLES:		
Note: Estimate and percentage of civilian veterans ONLY are included in the following profile tables.		
DP02 Data Profile—Social Characteristics Table	X	X
CP02 Comparison Data Profile—Social Characteristics Table	X	
S0201 Selected Population Profile	X	

Census Geography

Nation

Metropolitan and Micropolitan Areas

Urban Areas

Regions

American Indian/ Alaska Native Areas/ Hawaiian Home Lands

Zip Code Tabulation Areas

States

Congressional Districts

School Districts

Places

Counties

Public Use Microdata Areas (PUMAs)

Alaska Native Regional Areas

State Legislative Districts

- **Cities and towns -- incorporated**
- **Census Designated Places (CDPs):**
  - **- - Unincorporated; no size threshold**
  - **- - Separate and distinct from city/town**
  - **- - Redefined each census**

Census Tracts

- **1,200 to 8,000 population (optimum 4,000)**
- **480 to 3,200 housing units**

Block Groups

- **600 to 3,000 population**
- **240 to 1,200 housing units**

Census Blocks

Blocks are <u>not</u> defined by population and are the smallest geographic level at which data are ever released (Decennial Census, not the ACS)
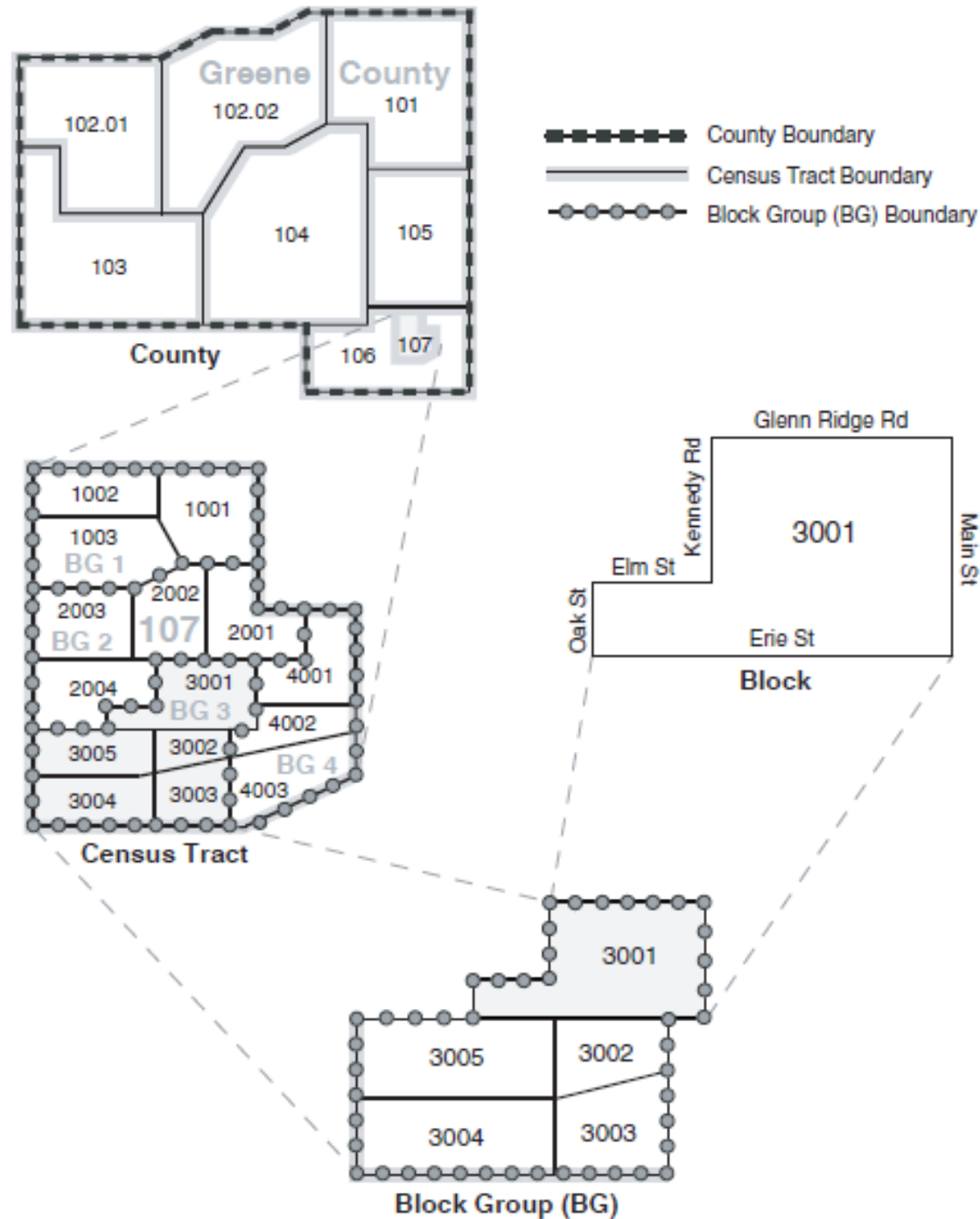
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Census Geography

Geographic Area Relationships— Small Statistical Areas

Accessing Veteran Data

Statistics on veteran populations can be found in many online data tools:

- QuickFacts   When you need an estimate of veterans in a state, county, or city (5K population threshold)

- My Congressional District   When you need an estimate of how many veterans live in your Congressional District

- Census Business Builder   When you need an estimate of how many veterans live in your state, county, city, ZCTA, or census tract (Veteran-Owned Business data available for the RAE edition)

- census.data.gov   When you need detailed demographic or socio-economic statistics about veterans in a specific geography

- Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS)   When you need to create custom tabulations

Sample of External Resources

- Bureau of Labor Statistics
  Employment Situation of Veterans Report

- Department of Veterans Affairs
  National Center for Veterans Analysis and Statistics
  Project CHALENG (veteran homelessness)

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
  Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress
  Homeless Population and Subpopulation Reports

Data Highlights and Visualizations

Characteristics	2018 ACS 1-year Estimate (%)	2017 ACS 1-year Estimate (%)
Military Veterans in the U.S.	17.9 million (7.1%)	18.2 million (7.3%)
Female Veterans in the U.S.	1.6 million (9.2%)	1.6 million (8.9%)
Black or African American population	2.1 million (12.0%)	2.1 million (11.8%)
Hispanic or Latino Population	1.2 million (7.2%)	1.2 million (6.9%)
Veterans 65 and older	8.9 million (50.1%)	9.1 million (50%)
Younger than 35	1.6 million (9.1%)	1.6 million (8.9%)
Veterans 18 to 64 in the labor force	6.9 million (4.7%)	7.0 million (4.6%)
With a service-connected disability	4.3 million (24%)	4.2 million (23%)
Annual Median income	$41,555	$40,577

Data Highlights and Visualizations

census.gov/topics/population/veterans/library/visualizations.html

Live Demonstration

Data Dissemination and Training: census.gov/academy

Census Academy

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Data Gems

What is a Census Tract? Making Sense of Census Geography

David Kraiker

If want to access data for parts of your community, Census Tracts are the way to go.

Read More

VIDEO | OCTOBER 11, 2018
How to Access Data for a Neighborhood or Service Area
By using Census Tracts, you can select the boundaries of your area, and access demographic, socioeconomic, and housing statistics about your community.

VIDEO | SEPTEMBER 21, 2018
How to Extract Data from the Census API
Learn how to use the Census API to explore or learn more about America's changing population and economy.

VIDEO | SEPTEMBER 21, 2018
Visualizing Characteristics Using the Census Engagement Navigator
Learn how to use this interactive visualization to quickly understand what areas of the country had high or low return rates in the 2010 census.

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Sign up for and manage alerts at https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USCENSUS/subscriber/new

facebook.com/uscensusbureau

twitter.com/uscensusbureau

More information on the American Community Survey: https://www.census.gov/acs

youtube.com/user/uscensusbureau

instagram.com/uscensusbureau

Census (Non-media inquiries)
800-923-8282

pinterest.com/uscensusbureau

Public Information Office (Media)
301-763-3030

linkedin.com/company/us-census-bureau

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Additional Resources:
Want Free Training?
Need Local Stats?

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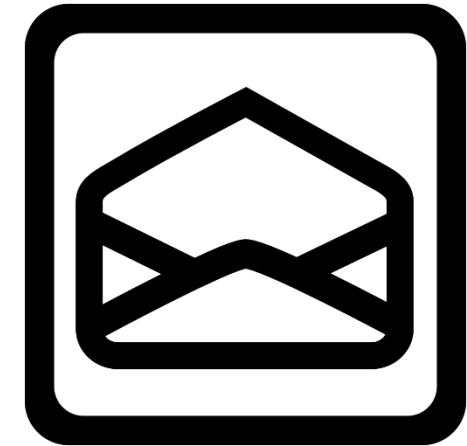
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